

**PRESENTED BY:  
THE CULTURAL SOCIETY**

**CULTURAL  
DINNER  
THEATER**



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**Date: April 28, 2007  
Time: 6:00 - 9:00**

**Valley Stream South H.S.**

**Dr. Stephen Lando**  
Principal

**Mr. Greg A. Peddle**  
Assistant Principal

**Ms. Lori Tintella**  
Assistant Principal

**Mrs. Monaz Chitroda**  
Cultural Society Advisor

**Mr. Jeffrey Hsi**  
Cultural Society Advisor

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Andrea Chong	Vice President
Amanda Aponte	Treasurer
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**Dr. Thomas Troisi**  
Assistant Superintendent  
Curriculum & Instruction

**Mr. William Heidenreich**  
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Personnel & Administration

**Dr. Ronald Smith**  
Interim Assistant Superintendent  
Finance & Operations

Thank you for supporting the Cultural Society. We hope that you enjoyed the show!

And if you thought that Cultural Dinner Theater was pretty good, our May 31st show will be even better!

## **A letter from the President...**

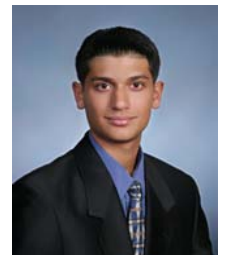
Friends of the Cultural Society,

From its modest beginnings in a faculty office to the hundred-or-so member club it is today, the Cultural Society has gained tremendously in its popularity in only a few months, and is the result of the hard work of many people. Members come together Tuesdays to appreciate the diversity present in our school and community. Through learning ethnic dances, putting on skits in foreign languages, eating popular foreign food, and even hosting a Sumo Showdown, the Society has continuously cultivated interest in other cultures at South High School.

Words cannot express how grateful we are for the efforts of our advisor, Mr. Jeffrey Hsi, along with the contributions of fellow advisor Mrs. Monaz Chitroda. Our recent Chinese Food sale, our Zeppole sale, and Sumo Showdown as well as upcoming events would not be possible without the time and dedication they, as well as our numerous members have put into the society. On behalf of the Cultural Society, I wish to thank the numerous restaurants and families that have donated food this evening, the many parents who have put up with our practice and rehearsal demands, and finally the students themselves, who have worked very hard to make tonight a success. Enjoy the show!

Warm regards,

Ketan Panchal  
President



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the previous page out!**

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**THE CULTURAL SOCIETY**

\*\*\*\*\*

Presents a Dazzling Array of Performances, Including:

❖ Chinese Lion Dance

❖ Indian Stick Dance (Dandiya)

❖ Filipino Folk Dance (Tinikling)

❖ Irish Step

❖ Hawaiian Fire Sticks

❖ African Folk Dance



**At The:**



## **Schedule of the Evening**

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Dinner	6:00-7:20
Grease Adaptation	7:30-7:45
Hong Kong Cinema	7:45-7:55
Marriage of Figaro Adaptation	7:55-8:10
Telenovela	8:10-8:25
Bollywood	8:25-8:40

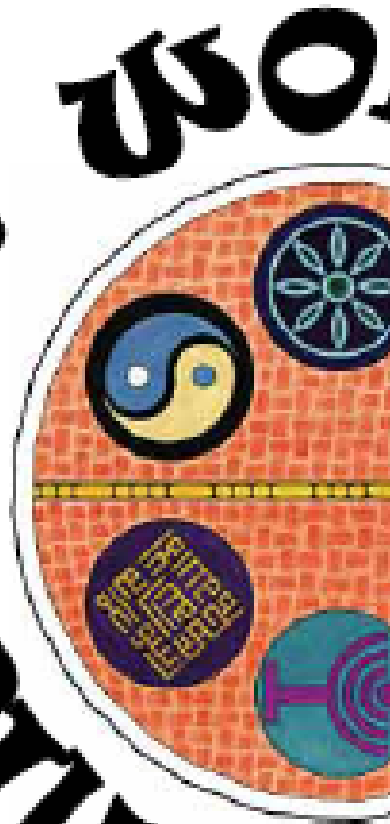
**Enjoy the Show!**

**Location:**  
Valley Stream South H.S.  
South Hall  
150 Jedwood Place  
Valley Stream, NY 11582

**Contact:**  
Jeffrey Hsi  
jeffreyhsi@yahoo.com

**Time and Date:**  
6:30 – 9:00 PM  
Thursday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2007

**Admission:**  
\$7 at the door  
\$5 if purchased in advance



# Grease

## Background on Grease:

Grease is a popular musical by Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey. It takes place in the year 1959 at Rydell High School which is filled with rebellious, thrill-loving students. In the midst of this scene, Sandy Dumbrowski enters as the new girl in school. It turns out that she and the leader of the Burger Palace Boys gang, Danny Zuko, have had a brief love affair the summer before. While Sandy stresses to her new classmates the emotional attachment she and Danny had, Danny stresses the physical aspects of their relationship. As the show goes on, the students at Rydell High have to deal with the typical crisis associated with one's teenaged years. In the end, Sandy and Danny resolve their differences and end up happily together.

## Summary of Grease:

In this scene, the new girl in town, Sandy Dumbrowski shares the details of her summer romance with the Pink Ladies. At the same time, Danny Zuko, the leader of the Burger Palace Boys, brags about his love conquest. Sandy and Danny are then reunited; while sandy is happy to find her summer love again, Danny blows her off under the guise of being too cool.

Christian O'Brien



Christina Gerasimovich



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## Cast List

**Directors: Alexa Kaplan & Erika Betancourt**

Sandy	Christina Gerasimovich
Danny	Christian O'Brien
Rizzo	Katie Golan
Jan	Alexis Futoran
Marty	Emily Sherman
Roger	Allan Tucker
Kenickie	Nick Sciretta
Doody	William Cheung
Sonny	Edwin Candelaria
Rydell Students:	Amanda Aponte Erika Betancourt Nick DeSantis Felicia Guinta Alexa Kaplan

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# Hong Kong Action Cinema

## Background:

Hong Kong cinema is the principal source of the Hong Kong film industry's global fame. It combines elements from the action movie, as codified by Hollywood, with Chinese storytelling and aesthetic traditions, to create a culturally distinctive form that nevertheless has a wide transcultural appeal.

No single figure was more responsible for this international profile than Bruce Lee, an American-born, Hong Kong-raised martial artist and actor. Lee completed just four movies before his death at the age of 32: *The Big Boss* (1971), *Fist of Fury* and *Way of the Dragon* (both 1972) and *Enter the Dragon* (1973). But in this very brief career he became cinema's first global Chinese superstar.

The only Chinese performer who has ever rivaled Lee's global fame is Jackie Chan. Like many kung fu performers of the day, Chan came out of training in Peking opera and started in film as a stuntman. In 1978, Chan teamed up with action choreographer Yuen Woo Ping on Yuen's directorial debut, *Snake in the Eagle's Shadow*. The resulting blend of physical comedy and kung fu action provided Chan with his first hit and the rudiments of what would become his signature style. Chan's follow-up movie with Yuen, *Drunken Master* (also 1978), and his directorial debut, *Fearless Hyena* (1979), were also giant hits and cemented his popularity.

## Summary:

In this brief scene, during which a Chinese love song will be sung by the talented Ronnie Dart, the new couple goes through the usual growing pains of any young couple. Their adventures in dating are presented in a series of vignettes.

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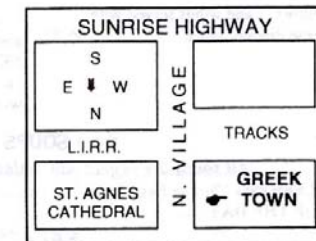
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## Cast List

**Director: Jeffrey Hsi**

Vocalist

Ronnie Dart

Female Lead

Alexa Kaplan

Male Lead

Jason Chung

# Sunrise

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# Italian Opera

## Background on Italian Opera:

Opera is a form of theater in which the drama is conveyed wholly or mainly through music & singing. Opera emerged in Italy around the 1600's and usually associated with the Western classical music tradition. It uses many of the elements of spoken theater such as scenery, costumes, & acting. Generally, however, opera is distinguished from other dramatic forms by the importance of song & conventions of vocal technique. Singers are accompanied by a musical ensemble ranging from a small instrumental ensemble to a full symphonic orchestra. It may also incorporate dance; this was especially true of French opera for much of its history.

## Summary of the Marriage of Figaro:

The Marriage of Figaro is a "sequel" to The Barber of Seville, and recounts a single "mad" day in the palace of the Count. The Count seeks favors of Susanna who is to be wed to her love, Figaro, the Count's valet. Figaro, Susanna, & the Countess conspire to embarrass the count & expose his infidelity. At night, all find themselves on the palace grounds, where a comic series of cases of mistaken identity result in the Count's humiliation.

Our Adaptation: Figaro is preparing their prom clothing, while Susana is preparing her prom headpiece. They talk about the wonderful life they will have together. After Figaro leaves, Susana invites her friend Veronica to help her write a love note. However, Veronica realizes that the same man Susana will be married to, is actually her long time unrequited love. After a major catfight, Susana is then left to decide whether she will date the Count instead, but decides not to in the end, because her love for Figaro is much too great.

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## Cast List

**Director: Katie Golan**

Susanna

Katie Golan

Figaro

Andrew Karp

Count Almaviva

Christian O'Brien

Countess Almaviva/Veronica

Alexis Futuran

The Narrator

Therese Conrad

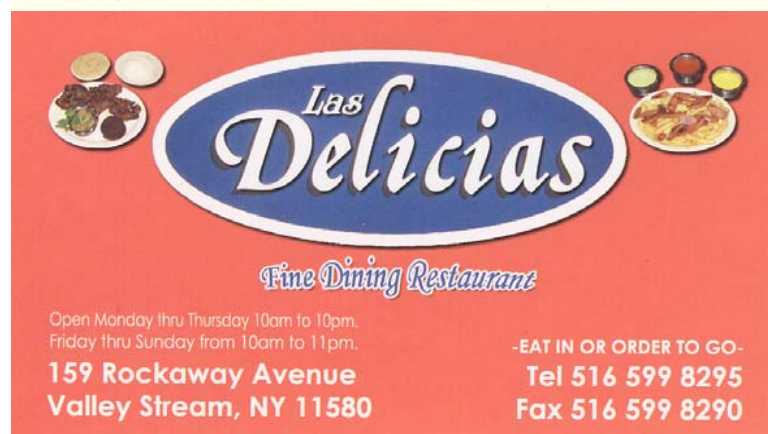
Katie Golan

Andrew Karp



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# Telenovela

## Background:

Telenovelas, also known as teleseries, is a television program produced originally in Latin America, transmitted through daily episodes, narrating a fictional story (although it can be based on real-life events) with tons of drama. They are similar to soap operas although Spanish telenovelas are much shorter in length. They normally have a limited number of episodes that doesn't pass a hundred or a couple hundred within one year. In some cases they may extend themselves to three years. A telenovela guarantees over-acted drama that never seems to end.

## Summary:

Rodrigo walks Selena home and they discuss their plans for the prom. It turns out that Selena is unable to make it to prom, because she is required to a family event. Selena tells Rodrigo that he should go to the school prom anyway, and he reluctantly agrees. At prom, a girl named Veronica sees Rodrigo walk in and talks to her friends about how she's interested in him. She saw that he entered alone without his girlfriend and plans to take advantage.

During the dance, Rodrigo and his friend are standing by the refreshments when Veronica goes over to talk and eventually asks Rodrigo to dance. After some persuasion from his friend, Rodrigo dances with her. Selena's friends watch them as they dance and become infuriated. They plan on telling Selena as soon as possible.

Before class starts on Monday, Selena's friends run to her and tell her what they saw at the dance. After learning that her boyfriend was dancing with her rival Veronica, Selena gets upset. After class ends Rodrigo and Selena get into an emotional argument.

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## Cast List

**Writer/Director: Carolina Cortes**

Selena Veronica Bohorquez

Rodrigo Chris Soler

Veronica Christina Lalama

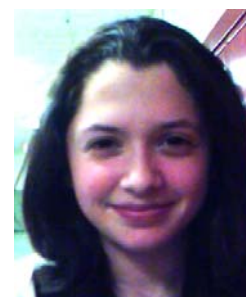
Rodrigo's Friend Ben Constabile

Selena's Friends:  
Carolina Cortes  
Evelyn Ramirez  
Tara Conlon

Veronica's Friends:  
Jessica Tovar  
Laura Montiel

Veronica Bohorquez

Chris Soler



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# The Indian Wedding

## Background on Bollywood:

Bollywood is the name given to the Mumbai-based Hindi-language film industry in India. Often called "Hindi Cinema," it is considered to be the largest in the world in terms of the number of films produced, and tickets sold. Bollywood films are usually musicals as there is usually at least one song-and-dance number. The songs are generally pre-recorded by professional playback singers with actors lip-synching the words, often while dancing. Bollywood film music is called "filmi" music, and dancing in Bollywood films is usually modeled on Indian classical dance that is often blended with Western dance styles

## Summary:

After losing his first love in high school because of a misunderstanding, the heartbroken boy (Raj) realizes his feelings a few years later when he finds out that his first love, Kajal, is about to marry someone else.

While Raj was rejected before because of his immaturity, he now understands the true meaning of love. He's depressed and needs the help of his two best friends to get back Kajal and prevent her from leaving him forever and marrying someone else.

Ayesha Alvi



Ryan Ahuja



## Cast List

**Writer/Director/Choreographer: Dimple Chhatlani**

Raj	Ryan Ahuja
Kajal	Ayesha Alvi
Munna Bhai (Raj's Friend)	Jeewandeep Singh
Circuit (Raj's Friend)	Ketan Panchal
Bride's Fiancée	Perminder Virk
Bride's Friend 1	Nazahah Dar
Bride's Friend 2	Binish Anjum
Bride's Father	Aamir Waheed
Bride's Mother	FatimaVali
Pundit (Priest)	Shamayal Jamil
Extra Dancers	Dimple Chhatlani Sara Kabir Sabah Kabir Resham Mahtani